

Amendments to the Claims:

Please replace the original claim set with the following replacement claim set:

1. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications chassis, comprising:

a shielding chamber having a first and second horizontal surface and a first and second vertical surface, the first and second vertical surfaces being disposed between the first and second horizontal surfaces, wherein the first and second horizontal surfaces and the first and second vertical surfaces are made of metal and are conductively connected;

a vertical backplane having connectors for interfacing with ~~repeater~~ telecommunications modules, the vertical backplane being disposed between the first and second horizontal surfaces and the first and second vertical surfaces, the vertical backplane establishing contact with the first and second horizontal surfaces and the first and second vertical surfaces, the vertical backplane having a ground conductor electrically connected to the connectors;

an outer housing encompassing the shielding chamber and the vertical backplane and having an open side for receiving telecommunications modules, and the outer housing having a first cover surface that is substantially parallel to but within a different spatial plane from the first horizontal surface and having a second cover surface that is substantially parallel to but within a different spatial plane from the vertical backplane, wherein spacing between the first cover surface and the first horizontal surface and spacing between the second cover surface and the vertical backplane form an airspace; and

a chassis ground conductor electrically connected to the shielding chamber and the ground conductor of the vertical backplane.

2. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, wherein the outer housing further includes a third cover surface that is substantially parallel to but within a different spatial plane from the second horizontal surface, the third cover surface having a plurality of holes adjacent to the airspace.

3. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, wherein the second cover surface has a plurality of holes adjacent to the airspace.
4. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, further comprising a faceplate substantially parallel to but within a different spatial plane from the vertical backplane, the faceplate being disposed within the open side of the outer housing, the faceplate for contacting telecommunications modules installed in the chassis, the faceplate having an aperture for receiving telecommunications modules.
5. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, further comprising a housing door hinged to the outer housing at the open side.
6. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, further comprising a handle rotatably mounted to the outer housing.
7. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, wherein the first and second horizontal surfaces have longitudinal slots for guiding and receiving telecommunications modules.
8. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 4, wherein the first and second horizontal surfaces have longitudinal slots for guiding and receiving telecommunications modules, and the faceplate has notches that align with the slots.
9. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, wherein the first and second horizontal surfaces have a plurality of holes.
10. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, further comprising a power supply mounted to the second cover surface and disposed within the airspace.

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11. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, wherein the outer housing is made of metal and the chassis ground conductor is conductively connected to the outer housing.

12. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of repeater modules disposed within the shielding chamber and interfaced with the vertical backplane, the repeater modules having circuitry enclosed within a shell, the shell having a first shell surface for engaging the first horizontal surface and a second shell surface for engaging the second horizontal surface.

13. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 12, wherein the circuitry receives a monitor signal, amplifies the monitor signal to generate an amplified monitor signal, recovers data and clock information from the amplified monitor signal, and produces an output signal repeating the recovered data and clock information, and wherein the monitor signal and the output signal have data rates greater than about 52 megabits per second.

14. (Original) The telecommunications chassis of claim 1, wherein the top and bottom horizontal surfaces have a zinc chromate plating.

15-37. (Cancelled)